



State of California
Respiratory Care Board
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February 27, 2003

Inquiry: I have noticed, where the RCB has been questioned about proper and appropriate staffing levels for RCP's, you state it is up to each individual healthcare system to establish it's own guidelines. My question is

- (1) Who do we turn to when the healthcare system itself refuses to follow it's own guidelines and creates a working environment that is unsafe both to the RCP and the patient? And
- (2) Who decides what is and is not appropriate?

Response: You are correct that currently the Board does not regulate staffing within a health care facility. Ordinarily internal mechanisms within a facility should be able to resolve these matters. Should that not be possible then I would refer you to the Department of Health Services. Their contact information is listed below for your convenience:

Department of Health Services
714/ 744 P Street,
Sacramento CA, 95814
(916) 445-4171

Reference # 2003-C-8

This determination does not constitute a declaratory decision under the comprehensive provisions of Government Code sections 11465.10 - 11465.70.